Darkhast Lands in Chickmagalur-Malki Rate

13. Sri M. L. VASUDEVA MURTHY (Nominated).—

Will the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the basis for fixing the malki for the lands granted under darkhast in Chickmagalur District in the year 1962 ;

(*b*) whether the malki was fixed at the then prevailing rate, and whether there are no instances of having collected malki at that rate ;

(*c*) whether the Government is aware that in some cases malki is being levied at the present rate ; if so, whether there is any proposal to remove this discrimination and fix malki on all at the then prevailing rate ?

Sri H. V. KOUJALGI (Minister for Revenue).—

(*a*) The basis for fixing the malki value for the timber that was existing on the lands given under darkhast was the then prevailing seigniorage rate.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) In the cases of land grants though made previously, the malki rate at the present seigniorage rate is being charged for the lands that are now being put in possession of the grantees. According to the rules now in force all the malki is being removed or disposed of only by the Forest Department.

Forest Area in the State

14. Sri M. L. VASUDEVA MURTHY (Nominated).—

Will the Minister of State for Forests be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the total extent of the Forest area in the State at the time of integration ;

(*b*) the area developed since then by afforestation programme ;

(*c*) the area de-forested since then for the following reasons :—

(1) for Agricultural purposes,

(2) for plantation purposes,

(3) for the purpose of Forest products such as timber, fire wood, etc., authorised,

(4) for the purposes of forest products such as timber, fire wood, etc., unauthorised (illicit),

(5) for effecting supplies to Mysore Iron and Steel Industries Ltd., Bhadravathi (Fire wood and Charcoal),

(6) Area submerged under projects ?

Sri ALUR HANUMANTHAPPA (Minister of State for Forests).—

(*a*) 5203.11 Sq. Miles.

(*b*) 6,50,000 acres.

(*c*) (1) 2,07,000 acres.

(2) No deforestation is necessary for plantation purpose.

(3) and (4) There is no large scale illicit removal of timber. Such cases are dealt with under the forest laws. No deforestation is necessary for exploitation of forest products as the planting operation is taken up in the areas wherein clear felling is done and from which timber and firewood is removed.

(5) 5,000 to 6,000 acres have been cleared for plantation purposes and the fuel available therein is converted into charcoal and upplied to Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravathi.

(6) 53,467 acres.

Polytechnic Institutions

15. Sri M. L. VASUDEVA MURTHY (Nominated).—

Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether admissions to Polytechnic Institutions are becoming thin ; if so, the reasons for the same ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that job avenues for the trainees of these institutions are remote when compared with the trainees of certificate courses of less duration ;

(*c*) whether the Government having second thoughts in retaining these institutions ?

Sri K. V SHANKARA GOWDA (Minister for Education).—

(*a*) Response for admission to the General branches of Civil Electrical and Mechanical Engineering in the Polytechnics is coming down presumably due to a feeling that job opportunities are not very many.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) It is proposed to diversify courses in these institutions with a view to meeting the specific neeeds of industries in the region.